

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Before examination, please amend the claims as listed above.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 10, and 14-18 are amended, claims 6-8 and 11-12 are canceled, and claims 19-26 are added; as a result, claims 1-5, 9-10, and 13-26 are now pending in this application.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amended and added claims do not introduce any new subject matter and are intended to cover subject matter fully supported by the originally filed specification.

With respect to the pending claims, Applicant respectfully submits that U.S. Pat. No. 6,473,072 to Comiskey et al. (hereinafter "Comiskey") fails to teach or suggest all the elements recited in the pending claims. For example, Applicant is unable to find in Comiskey a teaching or suggestion of a whiteboard apparatus that includes a user interface device for enabling an electronic paper display to present a user with a plurality of reference images grouped for display on the electronic paper display device to assist the user in drawing on the writing surface over a selected one of the plurality of reference images, as recited in claim 1. In addition, Applicant is unable to find in Comiskey a teaching or suggestion of a method that includes, besides other things, displaying on an electronic paper display device a plurality of reference images, and enabling a user to select a predefined image from the plurality of reference images for display on the electronic paper display device, as recited in claim 10.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (360) 212-8052 to facilitate prosecution of this matter. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 19th day of August, 2004.

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Respectfully Submitted,
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